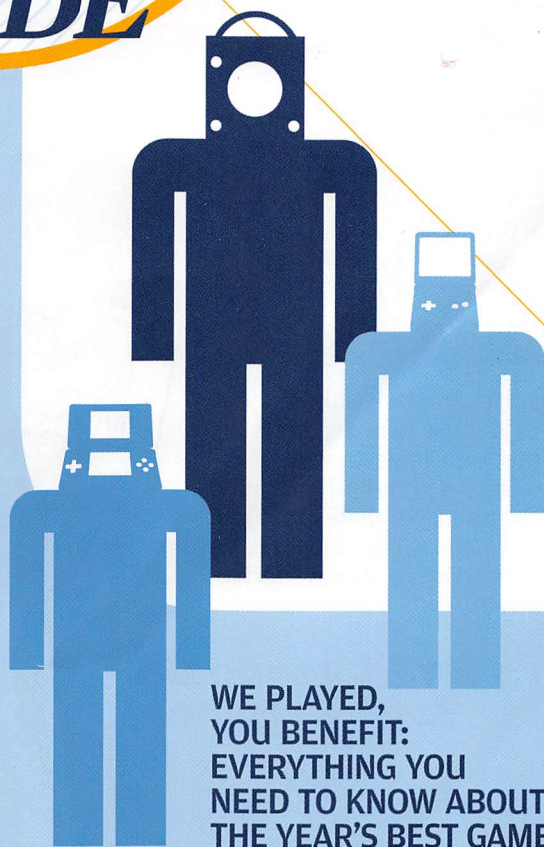


**NINTENDO**  
**POWER**

# 2005 HOLIDAY BUYER'S GUIDE



WE PLAYED,  
YOU BENEFIT:  
EVERYTHING YOU  
NEED TO KNOW ABOUT  
THE YEAR'S BEST GAMES



# ELF BOWLING 1 & 2

Santa says:

**"Stuff it...  
in your  
stocking!"**



## Two holiday classics in one package!

### Elf Bowling 1 –

Strap on your best bowling skates and polish up your shiny Christmas ball. It's time to save Christmas from those greedy little union elves. Help Santa show those elves what the true meaning of "strike" is!

### Elf Bowling 2 –

The snickering elves are back with Santa, but there is a new twist as Santa's ne'er-do-well brother, Dingle Kringle, joins Santa and the Elves on a cruise ship headed for an island adventure. Compete in a crazy shuffleboard tournament, with the Elves serving as "pucks" and providing their own special, colorful commentary.

**Available for Nintendo DS™  
and Game Boy® Advance**



**Coming in  
November  
2005!**



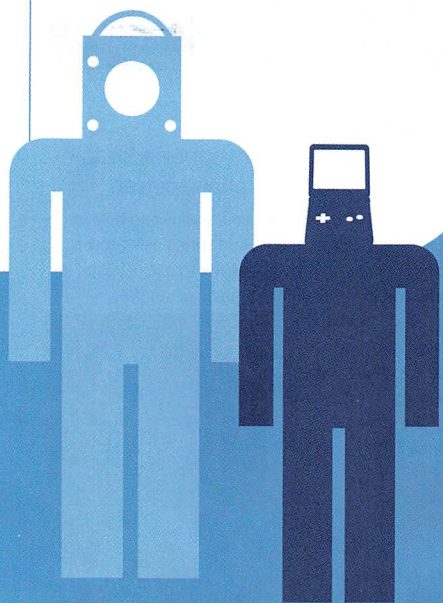
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Elf Bowling 1 © 1999 NStorm, Inc. Elf Bowling 2, "Elves in Paradise" © 2000 NStorm, Inc.  
Elf Bowling is a trademark of NStorm, Inc.  
Published by Ignition Entertainment Ltd. Developed by Black Lantern Studios, Inc.



# SEASON'S GREETINGS

'Tis the season to play more games.

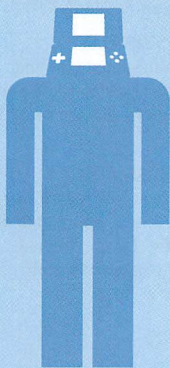
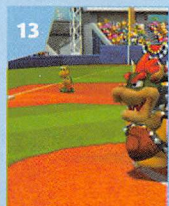
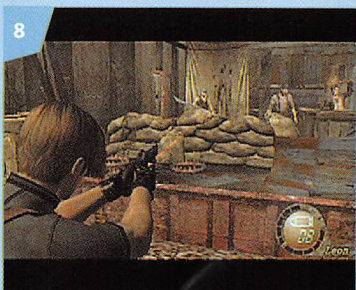
Ah, the holiday season. Time for visiting with friends and family, frolicking in the snow and feasting on winter treats. But who needs all that when you've got so many video games to play? That's where this handy guide comes in: How else will you decide which games and systems to ask your loved ones for, or choose what games to give them? When you're done warming up to the year's hottest reviews, devouring previews of the sweetest upcoming holiday hits and celebrating affordability with value-packed hardware bundles and Player's Choice titles, pass along the convenient checklist to your favorite gift-giver.



Visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org) for updated rating information

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# GUIDANCE SYSTEM

Your direct link to the best games in every genre for each system

Nintendogs. Battalion Wars. WarioWare:

Twisted! Mario Superstar Baseball. So

many games. So few presents.

Fortunately, we've compiled all the highest-scoring Nintendo Power reviews from 2005 into one easy-to-use supplement, conveniently divided by game type. No matter what kind of gamer you are, you'll find something to suit your tastes.

## MEET THE REVIEWERS

The crew picks its most-wanted games.



### STEVEN GRIMM

Animal Crossing (plus I'll be giving it to my pals back in Wisconsin), Mario Kart DS, Trauma Center and Mario & Luigi: Partners in Time.



### CHRIS HOFFMAN

I love my DS—there are so many great games. I need Castlevania: Dawn of Sorrow, Phoenix Wright and Trauma Center, in particular.



### ANDY MYERS

Tony Hawk's American Sk8land will enter my DS on its launch day, and it will not be removed until the year 2009.



### CHRIS SHEPPERD

Between wireless play with my friends and Wi-Fi connectivity across the world, I can't wait to get my hands on Mario Kart DS.



### GEORGE SINFIELD

My most anticipated film and game for the holiday season are the same: Peter Jackson's take on King Kong.



### STEVE THOMASON

All I want is to lock myself in a room with Fire Emblem: Path of Radiance for a week. Oh, and Castlevania: Dawn of Sorrow.

FOR THE NONCONFORMIST

## DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION: MARIO MIX

Groove the night away with Mario and friends—dance pad generously included.

"Dance Dance Revolution: Mario Mix isn't just a typical DDR game with a Mario makeover. The game does a good job of blending elements from Mario's universe with classic DDR gameplay." —ANDY M.

7.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE

PUBLISHER: NINTENDO

DEVELOPER: KONAMI/NINTENDO

ESRB: EVERYONE



## NINTENDOGS

Raise, train and care for your own lovable virtual dog. Now this is puppy power!

"From the moment you select your puppy and take it home from the kennel, you'll bond with it using touch control to pet and scratch it, and voice control to call it by name and give it training commands. It takes absolutely no stretch of the imagination to believe that there is an actual puppy on the other side of the screen."

—GEORGE S.

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS

PUBLISHER: NINTENDO

DEVELOPER: NINTENDO

ESRB: EVERYONE



All the fun of having  
your own cuddly puppy  
but without picking up after it.



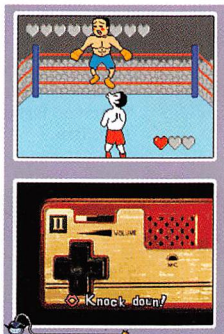
## WARIOWARE: TOUCHED!

Touch-screen insanity raises the frenetic WarioWare gameplay to new heights.

"The Nintendo DS's innovative control features and WarioWare's flood of zany microgames prove to be a perfect match in an all-new touch-controlled collection of three-second gems. The fun is in figuring out how to succeed in each of the more than 200 microgames and in unlocking new game collections and dozens of souvenirs." —GEORGE S.

**9.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: NINTENDO  
ESRB: EVERYONE



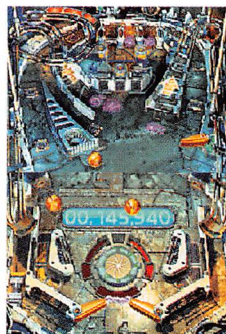
## METROID PRIME PINBALL

Using the Metroid universe as inspiration, MPP is a stellar take on a classic pastime.

"The detailed tables are spot-on interpretations of Prime worlds as pinball landscapes, and enemy hordes spread out over the boards, causing havoc for the tumbling bounty hunter. The game is a fully realized and well-tuned hybrid of pinball play and Metroid Prime atmosphere, and it sets the bar high for other pinball-action games to come." —GEORGE S.

**9.5**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: FUSE GAMES  
ESRB: EVERYONE



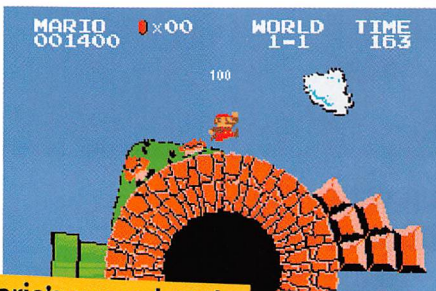
## WARIOWARE: TWISTED!

With loads of zany new microgames, Twisted will make your head spin.

"Like its predecessors, WarioWare: Twisted! offers more than 200 microgames broken into character-hosted categories. And it breaks ground with a gameplay turn. The pak is built with a gyro sensor that detects movement, challenging you to complete each task by moving your handheld in addition to pushing its buttons." —GEORGE S.

**8.5**

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: NINTENDO  
ESRB: EVERYONE



It's Wario's game, but the world is at Mario's feet.

## TRAUMA CENTER: UNDER THE KNIFE

Unlike most games, Trauma Center is about saving lives instead of taking them.

"If a surgeon accidentally dropped WarioWare: Touched! into a patient then sewed him up, we'd likely have something like Trauma Center. It's extremely fun; that is, if you can stand pressure-cooker scenarios that rival the toughest bosses out there." —STEVEN G.

**9.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: ATLUS  
DEVELOPER: ATLUS  
ESRB: TEEN



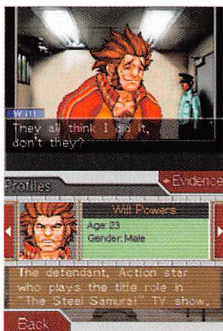
## PHOENIX WRIGHT: ACE ATTORNEY

Defend the innocent and expose the guilty in this courtroom graphic adventure.

"Is practicing law dull? Not in this game. Courtroom scenes move at a tennis-match pace as manga-style action slashes back and forth between you, the prosecution and the witness on the stand. Intense, yes. But never too serious." —STEVEN G.

**8.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: CAPCOM  
DEVELOPER: CAPCOM  
ESRB: TEEN





## TOM CLANCY'S SPLINTER CELL: CHAOS THEORY

Whether alone or co-op, Splinter Cell is your ticket to intense military thrills.

"Chances are, you aren't an elite spy with the training to sneak up and knock out or interrogate bad guys, but Ubisoft's third Splinter Cell adventure will make you feel like one. With an incredible assembly of spy gear, Chaos Theory is a complex espionage thriller that is surprisingly easy to pick up and play." —GEORGE S.

**8.0**  
GCN

**8.0**  
DS

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE, NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: UBISOFT  
DEVELOPER: UBISOFT (GCN), GAMELOFT (DS)  
ESRB: MATURE (GCN), TEEN (DS)



## ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

Play the hero as Spidey or the bad boy as Venom. It's the ultimate Spider-Man game.

"Not only does Ultimate Spider-Man follow the story of its namesake comic, but it also looks like the book. Control for both Venom and Spider-Man is responsive and fairly intuitive, considering all the variety of fighting, climbing and jumping moves that the characters can pull off." —GEORGE S.

**9.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ACTIVISION  
DEVELOPER: TREYARCH  
ESRB: TEEN



## VIEWTIFUL JOE: DOUBLE TROUBLE

Joe's got all-new VFX powers to lay down the smack. Henshin-a-Go-Go again, baby!

"Now that it's on the DS and able to take advantage of the capabilities that touch sensitivity and dual screens afford, Viewtiful Joe is more innovative than ever; but while the action and uniqueness still impress, a few flaws prevent Joe from being all he can be." —CHRIS H.

**7.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: CAPCOM  
DEVELOPER: CLOVER STUDIO  
ESRB: TEEN



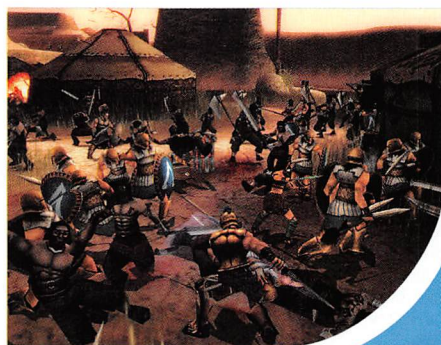
## SPARTAN: TOTAL WARRIOR

Feel the fury of battle as you slash your way into the heart of the Roman Empire.

"When it's at its best, Spartan offers an unparalleled sense of size and scope. Some of the environments are truly massive, and even with over a hundred soldiers on-screen at once, the frame rate remains consistently smooth. Rounding out the presentation is some solid voice acting and a quality soundtrack." —STEVE T.

**8.5**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: SEGA  
DEVELOPER: THE CREATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ESRB: MATURE





## DONKEY KONG JUNGLE BEAT

Feel the rhythm of something totally unique: a platformer played with bongos.

"When I first heard about DKJB, I dismissed it as a gimmick. The game is absolutely brilliant, though. It's both comfortably familiar and unique." —STEVE T.  
 "It's hard to put into words the way one reacts mentally while playing this game—it's so intuitive it's like your brain is moving the big ape directly." —CHRIS S.  
 "In my fantasy life, there are already 10 sequels planned for DKJB." —STEVEN G.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
 PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
 DEVELOPER: NINTENDO  
 ESRB: EVERYONE 10+



## DK: KING OF SWING

Put the big ape through his paces in a completely different twist on platforming.

"Donkey Kong Country in a blender: that's the DKKOS experience. King of Swing is as primally acrobatic as Donkey Kong's bongo platformer Jungle Beat, but on the GBA you'll perform moves with only L and R. Once you get used to careening like a shotput through jungles, deserts, snowy landscapes and grottoes, it's pretty thrilling. Daring DK fans should still give the game a spin." —STEVEN G.

8.0

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
 PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
 DEVELOPER: PAON  
 ESRB: EVERYONE



What makes DK spin like that?  
 Maybe bananas cause gas.

## KIRBY: CANVAS CURSE

Forget traditional game mechanics. Kirby's latest lets you unleash your inner artist.

"Fully stylus-driven, Kirby's new 2-D adventure spans many worlds (lava, caves, grottoes, etc.) that you've seen in previous platform games, but every one's an eye-opener thanks to the new control scheme. You'll make Kirby (made spherical by a witch's curse) dash forward by jabbing him, and you can guide him by scrawling rainbow paths for him to follow." —STEVEN G.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
 PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
 DEVELOPER: HAL LABORATORY, INC.  
 ESRB: EVERYONE



## TAK: THE GREAT JUJU CHALLENGE

Two-player fun and top-notch voice acting make Tak's third time a charm.

"The adventure, which pits Tak and Lok against three pairs of adventurers from competing tribes in a race for the favors of the Moon Juju, reaches well beyond the depth and quality of previous Tak games. Jumping sections are much more forgiving than in previous Tak games, and the teamwork-driven puzzle-solving is challenging but rarely frustrating. Two players work simultaneously using a split screen, and the second player can drop in and out of the game at will." —GEORGE S.

8.5  
GCN

7.0  
DS

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE, NINTENDO DS  
 PUBLISHER: THQ  
 DEVELOPER: AVALANCHE SOFTWARE (GCN), ALTRON (DS)  
 ESRB: EVERYONE





## RESIDENT EVIL 4

Years ago, Capcom created survival horror. With *Resident Evil 4*, they've reinvented it.

"Possibly the best console video game ever made, and definitely the standard that horror titles will be measured by for years to come." —STEVEN G.

"What happens to Leon happens to you. It's fast, frightening and nearing perfection. If you've shied away from the series in the past, now is the time to jump in. It's so good, it's scary." —GEORGE S.

"The story is thick, the action is intense and the gameplay is unbelievable." —CHRIS S.

10

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: CAPCOM  
DEVELOPER: CAPCOM  
ESRB: MATURE

European village chain-saw

massacre!



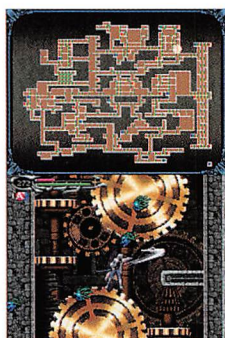
## CASTLEVANIA: DAWN OF SORROW

That haunting atmosphere, those chilling enemies... this is *Castlevania* at its finest.

"Dawn of Sorrow takes 2-D graphics above and beyond all other titles of its kind. Each new *Castlevania* game is a step closer to perfection. You get the feeling that the developers are using the franchise to hone in on what they consider the ideal gaming experience." —CHRIS S.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: KONAMI  
DEVELOPER: KONAMI  
ESRB: TEEN



## TRACE MEMORY

A teenage girl explores a mysterious island to find her father and solve a murder.

"The game uses every opportunity to challenge your investigative abilities. It also keeps the puzzle-solving process neatly contained. The game's atmosphere is rich with creepy music and sparkling dialogue, though some players may find the game long on conversation and short on action." —GEORGE S.

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: CING  
ESRB: TEEN



## THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: THE MINISH CAP

The power to shrink to micro size leads to enormous fun in Link's latest 2-D epic.

"The Minish Cap is a meritorious entry in gaming's most storied franchise. The ability to shrink yourself leads to some clever dungeon designs." —STEVE T.

"A million small details add up to a wonderfully real world." —STEVEN G.

9.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: CAPCOM  
ESRB: EVERYONE

Yes, that's a talking hat Link's wearing on his head.

No, it doesn't eat babies. Probably.





## BATTALION WARS

The battlefield heats up with an intense mix of strategy and real-time combat.

"Though you command a large force, you control only one unit directly at a time and switch control from unit to unit with minimal effort. The ability to lead the charge with soldiers, missile launchers, tanks, helicopters, bombers and fighter jets—all in one battle—gives the game a serious edge." —GEORGE S.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: KUJU  
ESRB: TEEN



## METEOS

Save the planets in this addictive puzzle game of intergalactic significance.

"Though the basic concept may seem familiar—you line up like-colored blocks that fall from the sky—the game is quite a departure from the genre norm. The blocks transform into rockets and launch back into space, carrying with them any blocks piled above." —STEVE T.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: Q ENTERTAINMENT/BANDAI  
ESRB: EVERYONE

Who knew  
that falling blocks  
could  
cause planetary  
destruction?



## FIRE EMBLEM: PATH OF RADIANCE

New elements join the tactical gameplay for another great Fire Emblem game.

"Though Path of Radiance is the series's first foray on the GCN, it's a Fire Emblem game through and through. The fundamentals are all present—they've just been amplified. Path of Radiance has more character types, more weapons and even more chapters than previous FE games." —ANDY M.

9.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS  
ESRB: TEEN



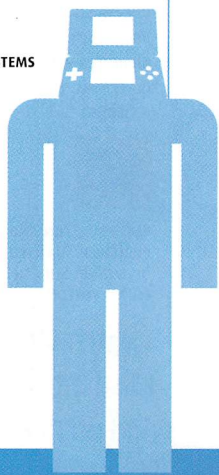
## ADVANCE WARS: DUAL STRIKE

The war against the Black Hole Army continues with new units and new CO teams.

"AWDS has what Advance Wars 2 lacked: a substantial number of new unit types. But AWDS goes beyond simply adding content to the series. There are changes to the gameplay, including the ability to assign two COs to one army. It incorporates the hardware's functionality in some interesting ways." —ANDY M.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS  
ESRB: EVERYONE





If you think his weapons look  
deadly, wait until you see his suplex.

## KILLER 7

You simply won't understand this surreal, twisted FPS until you play it.

"To play Capcom's violent, art-game epic is to give in to the insanity of its wheelchair-bound antihero, Harman Smith—an assassin who can morph into seven player-controlled personalities—and live in a world in which dead associates give you advice and your enemies are invisible, save for their shimmering skin." —GEORGE S.

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: CAPCOM  
DEVELOPER: GRASSHOPPER  
ESRB: MATURE



## STAR FOX: ASSAULT

Whether in a spacecraft, in a tank or on foot, Star Fox: Assault is explosive fun.

"Star Fox: Assault pits Fox McCloud and his pals against enemies old and new in a 10-mission war story that resolves old rivalries and starts new ones. The action is splendid, and three play-control schemes ensure that you'll have smooth sailing through the story and multi-player battles." —GEORGE S.

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: NAMCO  
ESRB: TEEN



## NANOSTRAY

Classic-style shooting with nonstop action and relentless pattern-based enemies.

"After you're done being dazzled by Nanostray's extraordinarily beautiful 3-D backgrounds and sleek spaceships, the next thing about the game that will hit you is just how freakin' hard it is.

You're bombarded with pulses, lasers, explosives and stray enemies from all angles with absolutely no breaks. Ever."

—GEORGE S.

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: MAJESCO  
DEVELOPER: SHIN'EN  
ESRB: EVERYONE



Watch out! One  
false move and you'll  
wind up deep-fried and extracrispy.

## SIGMA STAR SAGA

An action-RPG/shooter hybrid, Sigma Star Saga is bursting with innovation.

"Like many RPGs, the game has random battles, but it goes where no RPG has gone before—into space for shooter levels. And very often! Before you reach the next save spot, you'll likely be beamed up 30 times. The variety keeps the interruptions from becoming unwelcome, as does the Gun Data system." —STEVEN G.

8.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NAMCO  
DEVELOPER: WAYFORWARD  
ESRB: EVERYONE 10+





## HARVEST MOON: MORE FRIENDS OF MINERAL TOWN

If you've ever thought about living the farming life, this is the game for you.

"You work at your own pace, relishing the great depth of the RPG-influenced system while harvesting crops, wooing a mate, raising animals and performing about a million other tasks. Harvest Moon games are not for everyone, nor are they all good. But this one is, as long as you have the patience to savor the experience." —ANDY M.

**8.5**

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NATSUME  
DEVELOPER: MARVELOUS INTERACTIVE  
ESRB: EVERYONE

Spend the day farming and fishing.  
It's a pure and simple life.



## LUNAR: DRAGON SONG

Return to a fascinating world of magic and Dragon Masters, only on DS. Take heed!

"Despite falling short of expectations, Lunar: Dragon Song ultimately delivers a worthwhile adventure. The story has its moments, the music is quite good, and Toshiyuki Kubooka's character designs lend the game a warm familiarity." —STEVE T.

**7.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: UBISOFT  
DEVELOPER: JAM/GAME ARTS  
ESRB: EVERYONE 10+



## POKÉMON EMERALD

This expansion on Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire offers more fun for Pokémon fans.

"Pokémon FireRed and LeafGreen redefined the art of the Pokémon 'director's cut,' spreading new content through the story, then lavishing more near its finale. Pokémon Emerald may do only the latter, but the plot twists and battle finale are worth the wait for fans."

—STEVEN G.

**6.5**

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: GAME FREAK  
ESRB: EVERYONE



## POKÉMON XD: GALE OF DARKNESS

Get swept up in a quest to save Pokémon from an evil organization.

"The intriguing story and challenging gameplay are enough to please any RPG gamer, and in-game tutorials make it so you don't need to be a Master Trainer to be able to pick up XD and enjoy it right away. Visually, Pokémon XD goes way beyond expectation. The environments look crisp and detailed, complete with added light and reflection effects. XD provides a perfect environment for battling friends." —CHRIS S.

**8.5**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: GENIUS SONORITY  
ESRB: EVERYONE





**MADDEN NFL 06**

As it does year after year, Madden scores with a great game of football.

"In addition to the vastly improved passing game, there are tons of new player animations, the AI is smarter than ever, and there are even more ways to adjust each play before the snap. If you're ready for some football, this may be the only game in town, but it's still championship material." —STEVE T.

**9.0**  
GCN**8.0**  
DS**7.0**  
GBA

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE, NINTENDO DS, GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
DEVELOPER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
ESRB: EVERYONE

**WWE DAY OF RECKONING 2**

Step into the ring with 45 superstars in the GCN's best wrestling game yet.

"Day of Reckoning 2 boasts a number of improvements over its predecessor. The character models rank among the best ever seen on the GCN. Each wrestler's dialogue more accurately portrays his real-life persona (though there's still no voice acting, unfortunately), and the overall presentation does a better job of re-creating what you see on a WWE broadcast." —STEVE T.

**8.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: THQ  
DEVELOPER: YUKE'S  
ESRB: TEEN

**SSX ON TOUR**

Insane tricks, huge courses, the addition of skiing—oh, and Mario guest-stars.

"The mountain is connected via paths from top to bottom, so the snowboarding mentality of just strapping in and heading down a mountain is alive and well. Indeed, that's where the most fun is to be had in this game—not in races or half-pipe challenges, but in the exhilaration of a monster freestyle run." —CHRIS S.

**8.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
DEVELOPER: EA CANADA  
ESRB: EVERYONE 10+

**TIGER WOODS PGA TOUR 06**

Subtle changes to Tiger's gameplay yield a more authentic game of golf.

"For the 2006 version, the pendulum swings toward more realistic scores with a revamped putting game and a modification to the basic swing. The overall playing experience is consistent with that of previous iterations—great, as always, with adjustments that ground the scores in PGA Tour-level reality." —GEORGE S.

**9.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
DEVELOPER: EA CANADA  
ESRB: EVERYONE

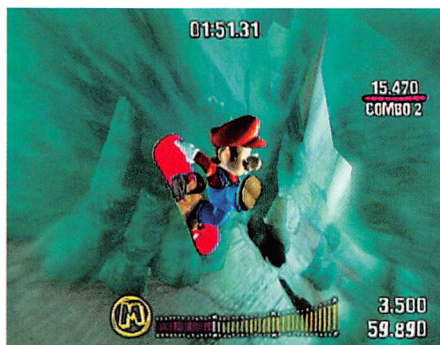
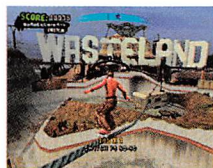
**TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN WASTELAND**

The streets of L.A. are your playground; BMX bikes are your new toys.

"Wasteland takes what was great from the Underground games and strips out all the lame antics. With its rich skateboarding history and unique west-coast attitude, there could not have been a better choice of city to build a game around than Los Angeles." —CHRIS S.

**9.0**

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ACTIVISION  
DEVELOPER: NEVERSOFT  
ESRB: TEEN





## RACING GEARS ADVANCE

Wild track design and tons of options highlight RGA's fast and furious RC-style racing.

"Supercharged cars race on 25 tracks. Choosing from 12 drivers and eight types of weapons, you must beat the field to the finish line by muscling your car around sharp turns and finding shortcuts. The game's far-overhead view serves the action well, but the cars appear very small, which could be a distraction." —GEORGE S.

7.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: ORBITAL MEDIA  
DEVELOPER: ORBITAL MEDIA  
ESRB: EVERYONE

## FIGHT NIGHT: ROUND 2

The most realistic boxing around, plus the inclusion of the classic Super Punch-Out!!

"By using the Control Stick for movement and the C Stick for punching, the game gives you direct and immediate control. After a few warm-up fights and training sessions, the controls become second nature and you can duck, lean and swing at will. The look of the game is flawless." —GEORGE S.

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
DEVELOPER: EA CHICAGO  
ESRB: TEEN

## MARIO SUPERSTAR BASEBALL

Mario takes the field in another sport, and once again it's a home run.

"As both a single-player baseball stadium tour and multi-player party game, Mario Superstar Baseball is a solid hit. It's big on baseball fundamentals and chock-full of Mushroom Kingdom flair, plus it shows a keen awareness of the situational play that gives the nation's pastime its edge. Key matchups are set with dramatic camera angles and game-changing significance. The game's controls are top-notch." —GEORGE S.

9.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
DEVELOPER: NAMCO  
ESRB: EVERYONE



America's favorite pastime  
is even better when  
the pitcher is a gorilla with a tie.

## ALSO WORTH CHECKING OUT

### DONKEY KONG COUNTRY 3

8.0

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
GENRE: PLATFORMER ESRB: EVERYONE

### FIFA SOCCER 06

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
GENRE: SPORTS ESRB: EVERYONE

### FIRE EMBLEM: THE SACRED STONES

9.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
GENRE: STRATEGY ESRB: EVERYONE

### GUNSTAR SUPER HEROES

9.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: SEGA  
GENRE: ACTION ESRB: EVERYONE 10+

### THE INCREDIBLE HULK: ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: VU GAMES  
GENRE: ACTION ESRB: TEEN

### KLONOA 2: DREAM CHAMP TOURNAMENT

8.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NAMCO  
GENRE: PLATFORMER ESRB: EVERYONE

### LOST IN BLUE

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: KONAMI  
GENRE: ADVENTURE ESRB: EVERYONE 10+

### MEGA MAN ZERO 4

8.5

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: CAPCOM  
GENRE: ACTION ESRB: EVERYONE

### NHL 06

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
GENRE: SPORTS ESRB: EVERYONE 10+

### PAC-PIX

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: NAMCO  
GENRE: ALTERNATIVE ESRB: EVERYONE

### SONIC GEMS COLLECTION

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: SEGA  
GENRE: ACTION ESRB: EVERYONE

### STAR WARS EPISODE III: REVENGE OF THE SITH

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: UBISOFT  
GENRE: ACTION ESRB: EVERYONE 10+

### TIMESPLITTERS: FUTURE PERFECT

8.5

PLATFORM: NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
GENRE: SHOOTER ESRB: MATURE

### YU-GI-OH!: NIGHTMARE TROUBADOUR

8.0

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: KONAMI  
GENRE: ROLE-PLAYING  
ESRB: EVERYONE





# ON THE RADAR

Get ready for these red-hot games, all due before year's end.

## SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG

The mysterious Shadow from Sonic Adventure 2 Battle returns in his own game, using super speed and various weapons to unlock the secrets of his past.



PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
SEGA  
GENRE:  
ACTION

## ANIMAL CROSSING: WILD WORLD



Move to town, get your house, invite your friends over for a multiplayer visit and then do whatever you want—such as decorating your home, fishing or just hanging out.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER:  
NINTENDO  
GENRE:  
COMMUNICATION

## MARIO PARTY 7

With new characters, eight-player competition, microphone support and more than 80 minigames, the newest

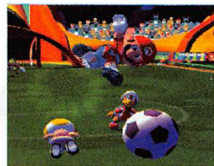


Mario Party looks to be the biggest bash yet.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
NINTENDO  
GENRE:  
BOARD GAME

## SUPER MARIO STRIKERS

Soccer the Mario way! Choose characters such as Wario, Yoshi or Luigi as your team captain, then unleash power-ups like giant Koopa shells at the opposition.



PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
NINTENDO  
GENRE:  
SPORTS

## BURNOUT LEGENDS

The wild racing series screams onto the DS, with all the spectacular crashes and near misses that give it such an edge. Courses from the console versions and all-new features should make this a smash hit.

PLATFORM: NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER: ELECTRONIC ARTS  
GENRE: RACING



## PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE TWO THRONES

Again blending fighting, platforming and puzzle-solving, the latest in the PoP saga also adds new elements like

chariot battles and Dark Prince transformation.



PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
UBISOFT  
GENRE:  
ACTION

Also look for **BATTLES of PRINCE of PERSIA** on DS

## FINAL FANTASY IV

The classic RPG is finding a new home on the GBA. The fantastic storytelling, memorable characters and deep play mechanics return along with new features.

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
GENRE: ROLE-PLAYING

## PETER JACKSON'S KING KONG

Featuring both first-person survival adventuring as a human and third-person action as Kong, this movie adaptation should be a monstrous hit.



PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
UBISOFT  
GENRE:  
ADVENTURE

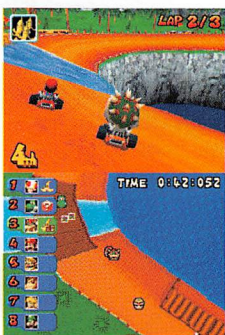
Also look for **KONG: 8TH WONDER of the WORLD** on DS and GBA

## DR. MARIO/PUZZLE LEAGUE

Two fantastic puzzle games conveniently located on one game pak. Whether you're eliminating viruses in Dr. Mario or lining up blocks in Puzzle League, you'll love the addictive, combo-heavy gameplay.

PLATFORM: GAME BOY ADVANCE  
PUBLISHER: NINTENDO  
GENRE: PUZZLE

## MARIO KART DS



All the fun of the previous Mario Kart games rolled into one—and now you can compete with friends anywhere, anytime, thanks to Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER:  
NINTENDO  
GENRE:  
RACING

## MARIO & LUIGI: PARTNERS IN TIME



Following up the hit GBA original, Partners in Time sends Mario and Luigi back to the past where they team up with baby versions of themselves to fend off an alien invasion.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER:  
NINTENDO  
GENRE:  
ROLE-PLAYING

## TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN SK8LAND

Even though Tony Hawk has been scaled down for portable systems, it packs all the fun of its console brethren and then some. The DS version incorporates



touch-screen editing, custom voice clips and more.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO DS, GBA  
PUBLISHER:  
ACTIVISION  
GENRE:  
SPORTS



## SONIC RUSH

Twice the screens, twice the speed. It's classic 2-D Sonic platforming action, now with bigger levels, new characters, 3-D boss battles and touch-screen minigames.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO DS  
PUBLISHER:  
SEGA  
GENRE:  
PLATFORMER

## HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE

Just in time for the fourth Potter movie, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire lets three players cooperate as



Harry attempts to win the Triwizard Tournament.

PLATFORM:  
NINTENDO GAMECUBE  
PUBLISHER:  
ELECTRONIC ARTS  
GENRE:  
ADVENTURE

Also coming to Nintendo DS and Game Boy Advance





# HARDWIRED

The games are great, but you'll need the hardware first!

This is where it all begins. Whether you opt for the at-home experience with the Nintendo GameCube, the innovation of the DS, the portability of the Game Boy Advance SP or the style of the Game Boy Micro, limitless fun is guaranteed.



## NINTENDO GAMECUBE

Powerful, affordable and home to gaming's biggest franchises.

The Nintendo GameCube is the exclusive console for must-have franchises like *The Legend of Zelda* and *Pokémon*. It's hip to be square.

## GAME BOY ADVANCE SP

The most successful portable on the market offers a library of hundreds of games.

Still going strong, the Game Boy Advance SP makes the most of its 32-bit power. More than 800 games are available, covering every genre and gaming interest.



## NINTENDO DS

Innovative features set the DS apart from the rest of the handheld pack.

Featuring dual screens, a touch-panel interface and voice recognition in addition to Game Boy Advance pak compatibility, the innovative DS has redefined what portable gaming is all about.



## GAME BOY MICRO

All the power of the Game Boy Advance, now available in a chic new design.

Now small enough to fit into any pocket, the latest member of the Game Boy family boasts a sporty new look and the ability to play the entire catalog of GBA games.





# BUNDLE UP

Great games and great systems, available together at a great price.

Games and systems are like cookies and milk: You can have one without the other, but why would you? Which is why Nintendo is offering sweet deals that bundle the hottest hardware with some of today's greatest new titles and familiar favorites.

## NINTENDOGS BEST FRIENDS



The Best Friends bundle includes a limited-edition DS system (in either Pearl Pink or Teal) as well as a special edition of the hit Nintendo Dogs DS game.

## MARIO KART DS BUNDLE



Get the revolutionary Wi-Fi-compatible Mario Kart DS along with an exclusive Hot-Rod Red DS system, and prepare for multiplayer kart-racing fun anywhere you desire.



## POKÉMON XD BUNDLE SET



This limited-edition Nintendo GameCube with a Pokémon XD faceplate also includes the exciting new RPG, Pokémon XD: Gale of Darkness.

## SUPER SMASH BROS. MELEE BUNDLE SET



Super Smash Bros. Melee has been one of the Nintendo GameCube's biggest hits, and now you can get it included with the GCN for free.

## MARIO PARTY 7 BUNDLE SET



The latest installment in the genre-defining Mario Party series is available with the GCN console and an additional controller for one low price.

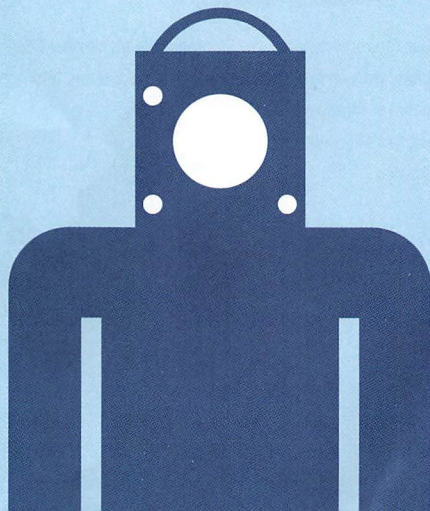
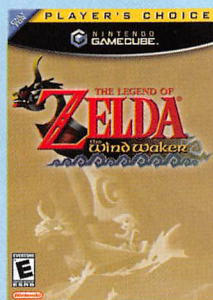
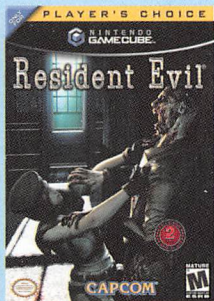
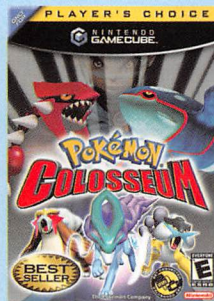
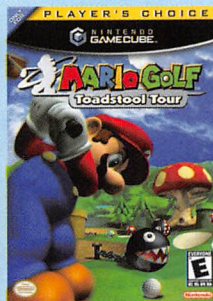
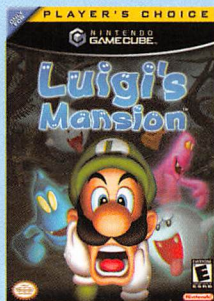
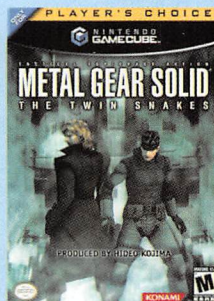
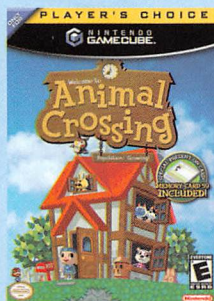


# CHOICE CUTS

Available at a special low-price, these GCN hits make gift-giving easy.

Only the most successful games get selected as Player's Choice titles. For a more extensive list, visit [Nintendo.com](http://Nintendo.com).

## NINTENDO GAMECUBE PLAYER'S CHOICE TITLES





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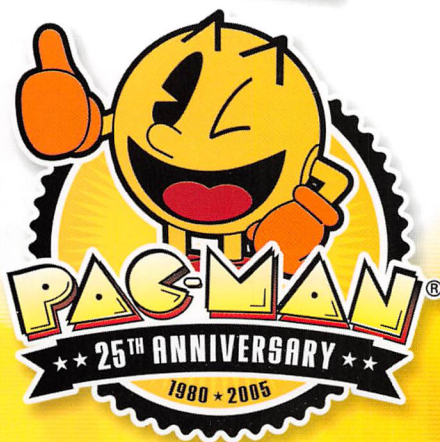
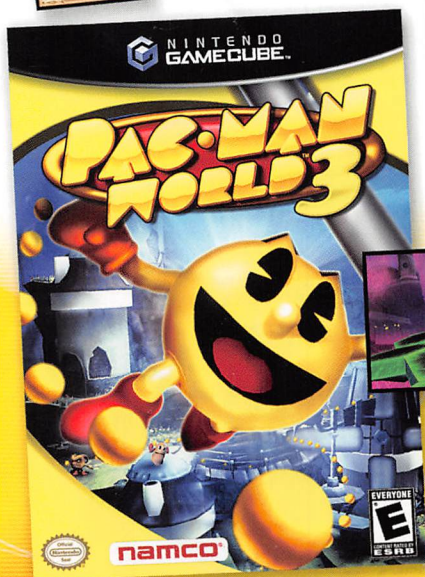
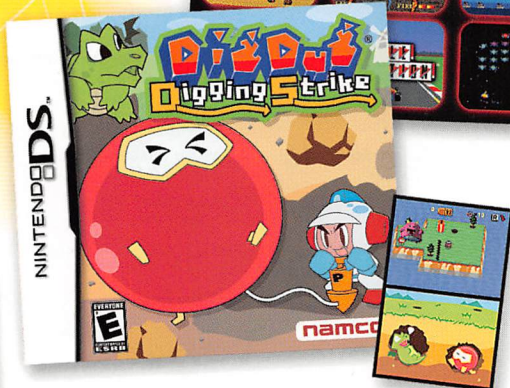
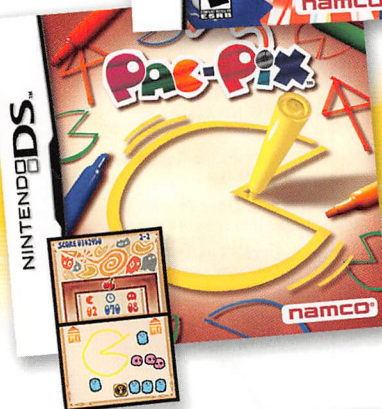
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# CELEBRATE PAC-MAN'S 25<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH THESE GREAT GAMES!



Visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org)  
for updated rating  
information.



NINTENDO DS™  
GAME BOY ADVANCE

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